

ELECTRONICALLY FILED ON December 2, 2010 PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 36671-744.502

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Kenneth F. Buechler ) Group Art Unit: 1641  
Application No.: 10/645,874 ) Examiner: Lum, Leon Yun Bon  
Filed: August 20, 2003 ) Confirmation No.: 8658  
For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR )  
MEASURING BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE )  
NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES AND FOR )  
IMPROVING THEIR THERAPEUTIC )  
POTENTIAL )

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

M/S Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 24, 2010, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks. The Response is submitted after the shortened statutory period for reply, therefore a one-month extension fee is required to enter this Amendment. This Response is accompanied by a Petition for Extension of Time under § 1.136 extending the time for response to December 24, 2010 and is therefore timely filed.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this response.